

the Limerick Sports Store, on William Street.

The fire was detected by gardai around 7.30 pm this Wednesday evening, when they saw smoke coming from the premises. The fire brigade was immediately alerted, and three units responded.

Twelve fire officers brought the blaze under control, and the last unit left the scene at 9.35 pm.

The area was sealed off and garda technical experts sifted through the debris, this Thursday morning. Henry Street crime office confirmed that the fire had been started deliberately. Objects were lit outside of the premises, and were dropped in through vents from the outside, triggering the blaze.

Parnell St Mall

CLLR Jack Bourke renewed his call on the Corporation to investigate parking in Parnell St Mall.

It is a pedestrian mall, he said.

"I was told that bollards would be put in place," he added.

Council seeks meeting on race nights

THE meeting renewed its call for a meeting with Bord nGon to discuss inconvenience to local residents on race nights at the Market's Field.

Brid Hayes, secretary of the cultural and environmental committee, read a letter to the meeting from Bord nGon which stated that the footpaths in the area will be cleaned following events at the track and added that the Bord Na gCon is doing all in its power to limit disruption for local residents.

The letter was in response to a letter sent by the Corporation on May 4 to Bord na gCon requesting a meeting.

At his week's meeting, Deputy Jim Kemmy pro-

Timoney and Associates, consulting engineers, who explained the system to a meeting of the cultural and environment committee of City Council, this week, said the operating cost would be approximately £30 per tonne.

Because it is environmentally friendly, he suggested, that the system might be considered for EU funding.

Mr Fehily explained that Irish Cement are currently investigating alternative methods of fuel and added that one of the uses of the residue would be an auxiliary fuel.

Members agreed to further examine the process, to discuss the process with the Minister for the Environment and suggested that a regional seminar on waste disposal be organised.

Lifford

CLLR Pat Kennedy, seconded by Alderman John Gilligan, has proposed that Lifford Park be taken in charge by the Corporation.

Council — progress on C'Troy welcomed

PROGRESS on developments in Castletroy View were welcomed with Michael McNamara, engineer, being singled out for particular tributes.

Alderman Gilligan said the residents had suffered a lot of inconvenience over the past few years. He welcomed the progress to date on work on a sewer in the estate.

CLlr Kieran O'Hanlon thanked everybody involved in the work carried out to date.

Senator Jan O'Sullivan said she would not be satisfied until all the roads in the estate were brought up to a proper standard.

Deputy Kemmy revealed that the Corporation will no longer sell land to developers who have left estates incomplete.

THIS Friday sees the first creation of Honorary Freemen of Limerick in more than fifteen years.

One of those to be honoured is five-times Mayor of Limerick, former TD and Senator, and chairman of the Limerick Harbour Commissioners for more than a quarter of a century, Ted Russell. He was in office during the most eventful period in the development of the harbour and estuary.

And also being honoured are two of the most notable personalities in the development of the Limerick Region: the president of the University of Limerick, Dr Edward Walsh, and the human dynamo behind the expansion of Shannon Airport, Shannon Development and Bord Fáilte, Dr Brendan O'Regan.

There are currently only two living freemen of Limerick — His Holiness Pope John Paul II, and His Excellency Gaetano Alibrandi, the former Papal Nuncio. These were each enrolled as freemen on October 1, 1979, along with Cardinal O'Fiach and Bishop Newman, each of whom have since died.

Prior to that, many modern Limerick freemen had also been clerics, eg. Bishop Robert Wyse-Jackson of Limerick, Ardfert and Aghadoe (1970), Bishop Joseph Whelan of Owerri (1970), and William Cardinal Conway of Armagh (1966).

Previous to that was Dr Kenneth Kaunda, founding president of the Republic of Zambia (1964) and, before

City honours three pioneers of prosperity



Dr Edward Walsh

and Sean T ó Ceallaigh were made freemen, although the first two were honoured before they had ever held official public office.

Other famous freemen include Isaac Butt, Charles Stewart Parnell, William Gladstone, Andrew Carnegie, and Sean Keating RHA.

Three women have become freemen — the Countess of Aberdeen, wife of the Governor General of Canada; Maude Gonne (McBride) and Mrs Thomas Clarke. No woman has received the honour since 1918.

So what is an Honorary Freeman?

The freedom of the city (sometimes referred to as "receiving the keys") is a purely formal honour, but is the highest honour which the city can confer. It carries no privileges, and freemen are as liable to prosecution for parking offences by Corporation wardens as are anyone else. It is a purely city honour, and there is no mechanism for a county council to create freemen of a county.

Whom to honour is

the decision is expected to be unanimously taken. A parchment, bearing the coat of arms of the city and other suitable embellishments, is then prepared, and is handed to the recipient at a formal ceremony at which speeches are made. The only occasion on which speeches were not made was when Pope John Paul received his parchment at Greenpark from Mayor Bobby Byrne and the then City Manager, Tom McDermott. The speeches were reserved for the City Gallery later that evening, when the other three prelates were honoured.

This Friday's conferring of honorary freemanships will also be the first occasion that the ceremony shall occur in the new City Hall. And as it is a formal occasion, invitations are extremely limited.

Dr Edward Walsh

DR Edward Walsh, born in Cork in 1939, and a chartered engineer, holds doctorates from Iowa State University, UCD and Queen's University, Belfast.

He is also a fellow of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufacture and Commerce; the Institution of Electrical Engineers and the Institution of Engineers of Ireland.

Currently president of the University of Limerick he is also vice-president of the International Association of University Presidents and director of a number of organisations including Shannon Development, Irish Peace Institute, Hunt Museum Trust, the governing body of Dublin City University, and the

Ireland in the senate from 1977 to 1982.

He previous appointments also include associate professor of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

He has also compiled a number of papers on topics as diverse as effective speaking in the classroom, curriculum management, electrodynamic energy conversion, education, Northern Ireland, Irish neutrality and science parks.

Dr Walsh and his wife Stephanie, have five children Michael, Stephen, Eoghan and Elizabeth Jane. His recreational interests include sailing, skiing, tennis, gardening and music.

Ted Russell

TED Russell, born in 1912, was educated at the Crescent College, St Benedicts in Gorey and Stoneyhurst College.

In commercial career includes chairmanship of the Silvermines Group PLC and past chairman of two old family businesses and a number of other Irish companies.

He is currently a member of Chamber of Commerce and was president of the Chamber in 1948 and 1949.

He was first elected to the City Council in 1942. He was elected Mayor in 1954, 1955, 1956, 1967 and 1976.

He retired from the Council in 1979.

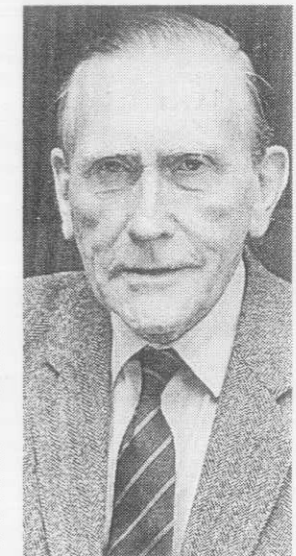
Mr Russell was a member of Dail Eireann from 1957 to 1961 and Seanad Eireann from 1969 to 1977.

He is the longest serving

In recognition of his long service as chairman, the Commissioners in 1993 decided to rename Limerick city dock, Ted Russell Dock.

From 1950 to 1961 he was chairman of the Cancer Association of Ireland which built and operated St Lukes hospital, Dublin.

Some years ago he donated land at Barrington's Pier to the Corporation for development as a public park for the use and enjoyment of the citizens of



Ted Russell

Limerick.

He was chairman of the committee which erected the memorial at the northern end of Sarsfield Bridge in honour of Mayors Michael O'Callaghan, (1920) and Seoirse Clancy (1921) and other Limerick patriots who were killed during the first for freedom.

Mr Russell and his wife Dervilla, who have four children, reside on the North Circular Road.

Dr Brendan



Dr Brendan O'Regan

was educated at Blackrock College, and studied hotel management in London, Switzerland, Germany and France.

From 1943 to 1973 he was catering comptroller at Shannon airport where he pioneered the duty free shop concept.

He was chairman of Bord Fáilte from 1957 to 1973.

From 1957 to 1959 he was chief executive of Shannon Airport company. He is a founder member and past president of Co-operation North, and in 1982 was president of Co-Operation Ireland in New York.

He is a founder and former chairman of the centre for International Co-operation, in Shannon.

His awards include an honorary doctorate of laws from the National University of Ireland, the British Airways Tourism Endeavour award, Clare Person of the Year and Rotary's "Paul Harris Award".

His published papers relate to tourism, industrial development and cross border co-operation.

He resides with his wife at Newmarket-on-Fergus.

Refuse sacks

ALDERMAN John Gilligan requested the Corporation to investigate the number of black refuse sacks being left around in Cruises Street.

It appears, he said, that wheelie bins are not been used.

"The waste is piled high in the street on some occasions and can look very unsightly" he claimed